

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A central control system is provided for broadband communication terminals. A message source generates control information adapted to provide different functionality to different broadband communication terminals or populations of such terminals. At least one transmitter is adapted to transmit control information generated by the message source to the terminals on different control channels. The message source provides control channel configuration messages targeted to different terminal populations or to individual terminals. The control channel configuration messages designate a particular control channel from which the targeted terminal population or individual terminal should thereafter acquire the control information required to control the functionality of the respective terminal(s). The transmitter provides the control information to the respective terminal(s), on the designated control channels, for use until the terminal(s) are directed to another control channel by a new control channel configuration message.

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